



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Tara B. White, Chair
Michele Shalaby
Nathaniel H. Yohalem
Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, August 11, 2014**

Board Members Present: Tara B. White, Chairman
Michele Shalaby
Nat Yohalem

Others Present: Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary
Charles Loring III
Rob McDermott
Dave Smith
Dave Herrick
Bob Dvorchik

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 6:03 p.m.

The Board read the minutes. **After a discussion, a motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the minutes of the July 14 meeting with Sen. Downing and Rep. Pignatelli, the July 28 and July 30, 2014 Selectmen's meetings, as amended.**

Fire Truck – Highway Superintendent, Chuck Loring, explained he wanted to use the expertise of Rob McDermott in choosing a fire truck. Rob McDermott described the process used in choosing a supplier for a fire truck. He explained that it was more cost effective to outsource "accessory items," which totaled \$17,545 (which included Mr. McDermott's fee of approximately \$1,100) from a different supplier and then have them installed on the truck. KME offered \$20,000 on a trade in of the old fire truck. KME's price for the fire truck, without the "accessory items," was \$532,355. In the total amount, there is a "change order contingency fee" of \$7500. Mr. McDermott explained that although the truck will ultimately be purchased from KME, HGAC is the watchdog organization, which ultimately was able to save \$25,000 against the

purchase price of this truck. Delivery of the truck will take 10-12 months. When the truck has been built, it will be transported to KME's facility in Albany where the "extras" will be installed.

The \$532,355 includes three visits to KME's facility in Pennsylvania to go over the specifications, observe the building of the fire truck, and make modifications if necessary. The warranty includes service, if necessary, which would take place either in Albany or technicians coming to New Marlborough. Training for the Fire Department will take place at the Albany location when the truck is completely built. There are warranties on the components of the truck. KME would be able to service all of the warranties with the exception of the transmission, front and rear axle as well as the engine.

The terms of the contract are payment upon physical acceptance. This gives the Treasurer time to explore different avenues of funding.

The Board expressed their appreciation to Rob McDermott for his expertise

A motion was made and accepted to approve the purchase of a fire truck from KME, with the purchase price not to exceed \$550,000.

County Road/Sisson Hill Road Bid - Chuck Loring stated the Town received four bids:

Del Signore	\$368,592.00
Lane Construction	\$353,817.00
LB Corporation	\$283,749.65
Tri-Town	\$298,145.00

A motion was made and accepted to award LB Corporation the bid for the County Road/Sisson Hill Projects.

Clayton Mill River Bridge – Highway Superintendent Charles Loring advised that Jeff Collingswood is no longer with Stantec. Nick Reitzel has taken his place and will be invited to the August 25 Selectmen's Meeting. Joe Wilkinson will do the construction on the bridge.

Eichstedt Property – Per Michael Skorput, Joe Wilkinson has not removed the gravel from the Eichstedt property. Michael Skorput received pictures of the Eichstedt property that he will send to the insurance company.

Norfolk Road – Chairman White expressed her concern about the condition of Norfolk Road. Highway Superintendent, Charles Loring, will put up signs and will repair the most damaged sections.

Loose Gravel – Selectman Shalaby expressed concern about the loose gravel on Collins Hill and the hazard it represents to motorcycles. Highway Superintendent Loring will have the loose stone removed from the edges of the road.

Employment Contract – Chairman White expressed her desire to have the Highway Superintendent's contract completed by August 25, 2014.

Surplus Vehicles Availability - Chairman White discussed the fact that the Government is no longer going to make available surplus diesel vehicles, due to emission standards, etc. The Highway Superintendent indicated that these trucks were useful as second vehicles, thereby taking the stress off the regular, more expensive vehicles. Chairman White stated her interest in contacting other towns in order to send a letter conveying the Town's dismay with this decision. Highway Superintendent stated he thought this was a country-wide edict. The letter would be sent to our U. S. Senators and State Representative, with copies to the Governor, Rep. Pignatelli and Sen. Downing.

Transfer Station Update – A meeting with Maguire Equipment who is the supplier of the compactor as well as a meeting with Joe Wilkinson will take place in order to determine where the pad is going to go. The delivery time on the compactor is 4-5 weeks, so the pad and electrical work must be done prior to delivery. Mike Skorput advised he's already contacted Dan Litchfield who will require a 3-4 days' notice to start the project. The estimated completion date is the end of September 2014.

Berkshire Hatchery - The Berkshire Hatchery applied for a one day beer and wine license for August 24, 2014. **A motion was made and accepted to grant Berkshire Hatchery Foundation a one day beer and license permit for August 24, 2014.**

School Meetings - Chairman White announced two school meetings – August 14 at 6 p.m. with Alford and August 20 at 7 p.m. with Sheffield.

Spiess Property - An auction date has been set for Saturday, September 27, 2014 at 11 a.m. at Town Hall. Chairman White indicated she had contacted Sullivan and Sullivan to auction the property. Sullivan and Sullivan has already started preparations for this auction and it does not feel that the Right of Redemption clause will present any difficulty in selling this property. The waterfront property is located at 129 Lake Road, New Marlborough.

Town Hall Renovations – Michael Skorput to contact EDM regarding the revised renovations needed for the Town.

Exit interview with Scott Farrell – Selectman Yohalem stated that Scott Farrell did not get paid for patrols. Scott also stated there was a policy but no contract with Graham. Scott further stated that the salary for a Police Chief in the area was in the range of \$60,000. He made a suggestion that Graham Frank could collect his salary as full-time Police Chief, but still be able to take eight hour patrol shifts in other towns in order to earn extra money. Scott gave Selectman Yohalem a form that he used to set goals; he further suggested that specific goals be set, but not more than two, and that those goals be measurable. He also gave Selectman Yohalem a job description for a Police Chief that he uses. Selectman Shalaby noted the next steps to be taken with Police Chief Graham Frank are salary, goals, a job description and a contract. Selectman Yohalem stated that Scott gave him a copy of a Police Chief's contract from West Stockbridge that he has marked up to match the Town's policies. The proposed contract will be further reviewed and discussed with the BOS. Selectman Yohalem felt that the Police Department needed its own separate policies, aside from the Town's, as its requirements are different.

Meeting with Sheffield - The meeting with Sheffield was attended by Selectman Yohalem, Michael Skorput, Dave Smith and Rhonda LaBombard and was a very positive meeting. The specifics of the meeting included purchasing a mower (\$120,000), the cost of which could be shared by three towns. Selectman Yohalem also talked about Western Mass Electric, which in

fact bought a mower and leased it for \$1. a year because it saves the electric company the burden of mowing around the poles. Rhonda is going to get in touch with National Grid to obtain additional information as well as to set up a meeting with them. A smaller paver (\$40,000) was also discussed as an item that towns could share. Another meeting is being scheduled for September 12 in Sheffield at 10:30 a.m. to which Monterey and Egremont will be invited. A trailer hot box was also discussed, as a means to keeping warm asphalt. An informal agreement was reached where the towns would bid together to get a better price on gravel, sand and other highway materials. A personnel issue was discussed, hiring one person to work half-time in Sheffield and half-time in New Marlborough. Rhonda suggested we could share the use of part-time police officers especially in the evening. Office supplies are another area in which we could maximize purchasing power.

Capital Planning Committee – Selectman Shalaby reported that the Committee met Friday, August 1. At that time, they spoke with Jim Podalak from the Department of Revenue. They basically asked him questions, i.e. what does the State oversee in town financing, what kind of information should the Town be looking at (highway vehicles, etc.). The next Capital Planning will include discussions with Highway Superintendent, Chuck Loring, perhaps Chairman White and Zack Blake. Ned Odegard will chair the next meeting.

Broadband – Selectman Shalaby advised she met with Senator Ben Downing regarding broadband for New Marlborough. Selectman Shalaby asked Senator Downing to be cognizant of several things: New Marlborough has a large geography, and that the cost for wiring the Town will be high, but with a small population. If the cost of wiring the Town is expensive, the Town will require additional time to evaluate the proposal. Selectman Shalaby further advised that apparently the reluctance of Mass Broadband to move ahead with communication regarding this project faster is the fact that it wanted to be sure that the financing is available. Senator Downing is going to meet with the State Senator in Connecticut to discuss why certain parts of the Connecticut towns and State are covered by cable, when only a short distance away, sometimes across the Massachusetts state line, that service is not available.

Foley Bridge – Is now open! A letter will be sent to Erica Kreuter, MassWorks, requesting she approve the unspent funds to be used for additional guardrails on the bridge. The cost of these guardrails is \$28,332.50. Highway Superintendent, Chuck Loring, has a commitment from the guardrail company that the installation will be complete by the end of August 2014.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Fleck
Administrative Secretary